

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A resonator, comprising:

a dielectric element including a dielectric element surface to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal;

a housing accommodating said dielectric element and having a housing surface that is opposed to the dielectric element surface; and

a holding member disposed between the dielectric element surface and the housing surface so as to hold ~~holdingsaid dielectric element, a permittivity of the holding member being less than that of the dielectric element so as to have a predetermined clearance generated between a dielectric element surface of said dielectric element to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal and a housing surface of said housing opposed to the dielectric element surface,~~

~~wherein said holding member is formed in said predetermined clearance by utilizing a predetermined low relative permittivity material.~~

2. (Original) The resonator according to claim 1, wherein said dielectric element is the dielectric element operating in a TE mode; and

said electric field is the electric field operating in said TE mode.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The resonator according to claim 1, wherein:

said dielectric element has a half-cylindrical shape defined by a cylindrical shape severed by a plane including a central axis of the cylindrical shape; and

said dielectric element surface is a surface severed by said plane.

5. (Currently Amended) The resonator according to claim 4, further comprising signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing atthe housing surface on which said dielectric element is held.

6. (Previously Presented) The resonator according to claim 1, wherein:

said dielectric element has a quarter-cylindrical shape defined by a cylindrical shape severed by two mutually orthogonal planes including a central axis of the cylindrical shape; and

said dielectric element surface is two surfaces severed by said two planes.

7. (Previously Presented) The resonator according to claim 6, wherein said dielectric element is held by utilizing two adjacent housing surfaces of said housing, and further comprising signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing one of said two adjacent housing surfaces.

8. (Original) The resonator according to claim 4 or 6, wherein said cylindrical shape has a hole at the center thereof.

9. (Previously Presented) The resonator according to claim 1, wherein:

said dielectric element has a polygonal shape defined by a polygonal shape severed by a plane; and

said dielectric element surface is a surface severed by said plane.

10. (Currently Amended) The resonator according to claim 9, further comprising signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing at the housing surface on which said dielectric element is held.

11. (Currently Amended) A filter, comprising:

a plurality of dielectric elements including dielectric element surfaces to which generated electric fields are substantially orthogonal;

a housing accommodating said dielectric elements and having at least one housing surface that is opposed to respective dielectric element surfaces; and

one or a plurality of holding members disposed between each of the respective dielectric element surfaces and the at least one housing surface so as to hold ~~holding~~ said dielectric elements, a permittivity of each holding member being less than that of a respective one or respective ones of the dielectric elements ~~so as to have a predetermined clearance generated between dielectric element surfaces of said dielectric elements to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal and a housing surface of said housing opposed to the dielectric element surfaces,~~

~~wherein one or more of said holding members are formed in said predetermined clearance by utilizing a respective, predetermined low relative permittivity material.~~

12. (Original) The filter according to claim 11, wherein said dielectric elements are the dielectric elements operating in a TE mode; and

said electric field is the electric field generated in said TE mode.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) The filter according to claim 11, wherein said holding members hold two or more of said dielectric elements in common.

15. (Previously Presented) The filter according to claim 11, wherein:

said dielectric elements have a half-cylindrical shape defined by a cylindrical shape severed by a plane including a central axis of the cylindrical shape; and

said dielectric element surfaces are the surfaces severed by said plane.

16. (Currently Amended) The filter according to claim 15, further comprising signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing at the at least one housing surface on which said dielectric elements are held.

17. (Previously Presented) The filter according to claim 11, wherein:

said dielectric elements have a quarter-cylindrical shape defined by a cylindrical shape severed by two mutually orthogonal planes including a central axis of the cylindrical shape; and

said dielectric element surface is two surfaces severed by said two planes.

18. (Previously Presented) The filter according to claim 17, wherein said dielectric elements are held by utilizing two adjacent housing surfaces of said housing, and further comprising signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing one of said two adjacent housing surfaces.

19. (Original) The filter according to claim 15 or 17, wherein said cylindrical shape has a hole at the center thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The filter according to claim 11, wherein:

said dielectric elements have a polygonal pole shape defined by a polygonal pole shape severed by a plane; and

said dielectric element surfaces are the surfaces severed by said plane.

21. (Currently Amended) The filter according to claim 20, further comprising a signal input-output probes of inputting and outputting a signal provided by utilizing at the at least one housing surface on which said dielectric elements are held.

22. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus, comprising:

sending/receiving means of sending a sending signal and/or of receiving a receiving signal; and

the resonator according to claim 1 or the filter according to claim 11 to filter said sending signal to be utilized for said sending and/or said receiving signal to be utilized for said receiving.

23. (Currently Amended) A resonator manufacturing method, comprising:

a formation step of forming a holding member ~~onto~~ holding a dielectric element, the dielectric element including a dielectric element surface to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal; and

a disposing step of disposing the holding member between the dielectric element surface of the dielectric element and a housing surface of a housing, a permittivity of the holding member being less than that of the dielectric element so as to have a predetermined clearance generated between a dielectric element surface of said dielectric element to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal and a housing surface of a housing of accommodating said dielectric element opposed to the dielectric element surface, wherein the formation step includes forming in said predetermined clearance said holding member by utilizing a predetermined low relative permittivity material.

24. (Currently Amended) A filter manufacturing method, comprising:

a formation step of forming one or a plurality of holding members ~~onto~~ holding a plurality of dielectric elements, the plurality of dielectric elements including

dielectric element surfaces to which generated electric fields are substantially orthogonal; and

a disposing step of disposing the one or plurality of holding members between dielectric element surfaces of respective dielectric elements and at least one housing surface of a housing, a permittivity of each holding member being less than that of a respective one or respective ones of the dielectric elements~~so as to have a predetermined clearance generated between dielectric element surfaces of said dielectric elements to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal and a housing surface of a housing of accommodating said dielectric elements opposed to the dielectric element surfaces, wherein the formation step includes forming in said predetermined clearance one or more of said holding members by utilizing a respective, predetermined low relative permittivity material.~~

25. (Previously Presented) A resonator, comprising:

a dielectric element including a dielectric element surface to which a generated electric field is substantially orthogonal;

a housing accommodating said dielectric element and having a housing surface that is opposed to the dielectric element surface; and

a holding member disposed between the dielectric element surface and the opposed housing surface in an area corresponding to at least the entire opposed housing surface to hold said dielectric element and to have a predetermined clearance between the dielectric element surface and the opposed housing surface, a permittivity of the holding member being less than that of the dielectric element.